

**REMARKS**

This application was originally filed on 31 December 2001 with nineteen claims, three of which were written in independent form. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, and 13 were amended, and Claims 20-22 added, on 8 January 2004. Claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-18, 20, and 22 amended on 7 October 2004. Claims 1-5 and 10-22 have been canceled, and Claims 23-30 added herein. Claims 6-9 have been allowed. As there are now only four independent and twelve total claims, it is believed no additional claim fees are due as a result of this amendment. Nevertheless, please charge any necessary fees, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Deposit Account 20-0668.

Newly added Claim 23 recites and optical component comprising two elements in which the first and second axes of symmetry are not co-linear. Embodiments of this optical component are shown in Figures 4 and 5. Claim 23 should be deemed allowable as the prior art of record does not show, teach, or suggest an optical element having the particular arrangement of surfaces recited by Claim 23.

Newly added Claims 24-30 recite methods of illuminating an optical modulator. Figures 2-5 illustrate optical paths according to embodiments of this method. Claims 24-30 should be deemed allowable as the prior art of record does not show, teach, or suggest a method of illumination that results in the particular arrangement of optical paths recited by Claims 24-30.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that the present claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Amendment - Page 5

Respectfully submitted,



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Amendment - Page 6